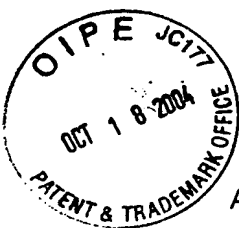


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kazuhisa ARUGA

Serial No.: 10/615,907

Filed: July 10, 2003

For: DISK SUBSYSTEM

Group: 2187

Examiner: G. Portka

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 18, 2004

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims

Remarks are included following the amendments.